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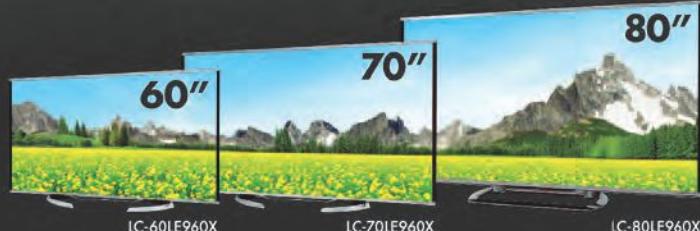
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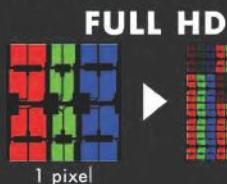


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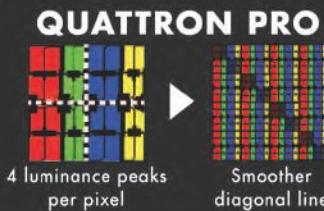
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In the Mood to Decorate



EDITOR'S NOTE

“**B**e faithful to your own taste because nothing you really like will ever be out of style,” says design legend Billy Baldwin, and I couldn’t agree more. I always get asked about my rule in decorating, to which I always reply that when designing a space, it often depends on how you feel more than how you want it to look. Your home should always be a reflection of your personal style, so remember that the ultimate rule is that there is no rule in decorating. Just have fun along the way and know when to edit.

It's fascinating to see how each one interprets the concept of home. I believe that a home is a treasure trove filled with memories and beautiful pieces. Of course, it's a bonus if these are displayed harmoniously and with aesthetic flair. Luckily in this issue, we are able to share with you five personal spaces that speak of individuality. From Filipino to country to Bohemian to eclectic to modern, these homes with different design styles are undeniably unique and inspiring. Equally as exciting is our Entertaining section, where top event stylist Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran shows us how to create fabulous table settings with various concepts and themes.

Over the past few months, we have welcomed global brands, who are the main players in the arena of home furnishings, within our shores. I, for one, have always dreamt for these brands to launch their shops in Manila. Now that these major retail stores are here, it's interesting to see how they will hold up against our local consumers and retailers. One thing is for sure: we are delighted to add more options to our usual shopping haunts. In this issue, we bring you the latest finds from new stores like Pottery Barn, Crate and Barrel, H&M Home, The Veranda by W/17, and Purple Orchid.

Our team has also been working on our 15th anniversary coffee table book entitled *Inspiring Interiors*. I know all the hard work that the team has put into this book, and I would like to commend everyone involved for doing such an excellent job in producing this. Please grab a copy, and I hope you enjoy poring through the pages filled with modern Filipino homes as much as we enjoyed putting them together. Oh, and consider this as my housewarming party for being the new editor-in-chief as we take MyHome magazine to greater heights.

I'm home.




Nix Alañon
Editor in Chief

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Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran

is a premiere designer who has created impressive residential and commercial interiors over the past 13 years. In 2008, she founded Moss Manila Design House, a multi-disciplinary design firm that specializes in interior and event design. Her recent venture is Moss Manila Home, her firm's home store with US-based interior designer Happy Fernandez-Victorino. This month, Cyndi styles five table settings for our Entertaining section. <info@mossmanila.com>



Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi

is a self-confessed lover of life and living it to the fullest. A full-time writer forever looking for the story behind things, her column *Feast with Me* in the Philippine Star tackles everything from food, wine, entertaining, travel, art, and décor. In our Entertaining section, she writes tips on how to achieve the right table settings. <thegypsettersnet@gmail.com>



Daniella Rodriguez

was indirectly influenced to pursue a second course at the Philippine School of Interior Design by her mother, a woman with an eye for well-curated spaces. Besides studying interior design, this former ballet dancer also keeps herself busy with classes at Polecats Manila. In this issue, Daniella writes about a businessman's modern dwelling. <dbmrodriguez@gmail.com>



Patti Sunio

is a writer and fashion stylist. She mostly writes about fashion, beauty, and K-Pop. This month, she writes about how you can attract positive *feng shui* into your home for the Year of the Sheep. <psunio@buensalido.com.ph>



Electrolychee Studio

is a local studio in the Philippines that merges illustration with design. In our *Feng Shui* section, the duo illustrates what your Chinese Zodiac is telling you about the Year of the Sheep. <electrolycheestudio@gmail.com>

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New, Now, Next

The latest products, launches, and innovations for an improved lifestyle

Written by Love Ocampo



Glamor and Fab

After the phenomenal launch of its first store in Manila, H&M has now opened its second branch in Robinsons Magnolia. This two-level shop occupies a 3,000-square meter space that features sections for women, men, teens, and children, as well as the country's first H&M Home collection. The items are inspired by seasonal fashion trends, so expect a mix of elegant and eye-catching home accessories that carry occasional quirky details.



Conversations with Blue

Filipino lifestyle journalist and fashion editor Blue Carreon has recently released his first book, *Conversations: Up Close and Personal with Icons of Fashion, Interior Design and Art*. It is a curated sampling of Blue's interviews with over 65 well-known personalities, including the likes of Inès de la

Fressange, Diane von Furstenberg, Charlotte Moss, and James Nares. Read into the fascinating lives of some of the world's most creative minds and be surprised at how they answer each of Blue's questions. Grab your copy at National Bookstore or Powerbooks for only P1,265.



Perfect Fusion

Purple Orchid is a one-stop shop for finely curated artisan ornaments, which is primarily comprised of Asian furniture pieces and accessories. It also carries locally made furniture, Zen-styled handicrafts and décor, gilded Mandala ornaments, handcrafted table lamps, and finely carved cabinets and wooden panels.

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Modern Furniture Made Simple

Gus combines great design with practical purpose to produce modern furniture fit for the sensible-living urbanite. The brand's wide array of sofas, sectionals, chairs, and tables has set high standards of quality and with a modernist feel. Visit gusmodern.com to find a store near you.



Weekend Retreat

Veranda by W/17 brings the tranquillity of the outdoors into your living room. Not only does it carry exquisite furniture and home accessories by both local and global artisans, it also highlights *hacienda* living. One of the available furniture lines is the Sika design from Denmark, which has created comfortable and sustainable handmade furniture from wicker and *rattan* since the 1950s. Visit Veranda by W/17 at the 4th level of Mega Fashion Hall at SM Megamall Building A.



The Wait is Over

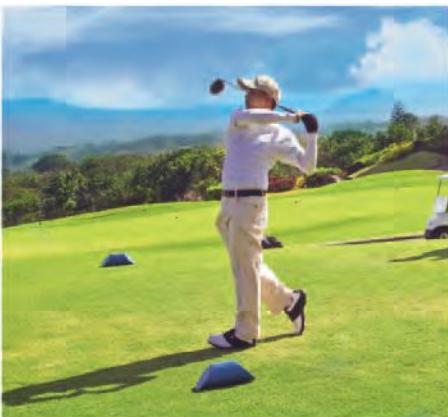
Crate and Barrel is an international, multi-channel family of brands known for their exclusive house wares and furniture designs, excellent value, and superb customer service. Consumers would be happy to know that the first Crate and Barrel store has finally arrived in Manila, located at the 4th level of Mega Fashion Hall at SM Megamall Building A.

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Making a Statement

The home has become an extension for translating people's personal taste and style through interior design. Kitchens, in particular, are the heart of every home, so make it fun with these lively Alessi juicers and corkscrews. You will surely be a step nearer to preparing a hearty meal!



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A pair of geometrically patterned pillows fits in five different design styles

Written by Cy Yambao | Photographed by Mike Cuevas and Ed Simon of Studio 100 | Styled by Love Ocampo and Aisne Trinidad



Neutral color palettes typically dominate Filipino-themed rooms, especially with the abundance of wood and other natural materials.

If your couch is upholstered in plain off white fabric, it should be easy for you to pair this with heavily patterned throw pillows. Balance your sofa's simplicity with bolder color combinations and tribal-inspired prints that still reflect a Filipino look.

It's been said many times that changing your throw pillows is the easiest and most affordable way to revamp your home. Oftentimes, you opt for safer colors that complement an area's main palette and minimal prints that wouldn't clash with the major pieces. In this issue, we encourage you to take the road less travelled, and experiment with brighter colors and bolder designs for your throw pillows. Flip through the pages and see how the geometrically patterned pillows by designer Inigo Elizalde effortlessly blend in five different design styles.



Filipino-inspired coffee tables, which are normally carved out of local wood, create a statement through their unique shapes and raw textures. Top yours with traditional accessories that convey the country's rich culture through the use of indigenous materials like wood and stone.



DESIGN SOLUTIONS



Bohemian design is defined by spaces that basically mix diverse ethnicities, resulting in a hodgepodge of all the unique pieces that strike your fancy. If you already have Moroccan-inspired droplights and a locally made outdoor furniture set, it would only be fitting to throw in a pair of patterned pillows. These mismatched pieces reflect a carefree ambiance that breaks all the rules, and reminds that layering colors, patterns, and textures isn't too much of a sin.

If you're going for a Bohemian vibe, fill your coffee table with secondhand pieces, vintage finds, and travel mementos. Choose accents that carry earth tones and intricate patterns—all of which having a special story behind them.

When one mentions eclectic, what comes to mind is a well-curated space encompassing several design styles that originate from various eras. In this particular living area, a mid-Century modern couch is flanked by a vintage chest converted into a side table, a glass top coffee table, and a myriad of abstract paintings. Take inspiration from the available colors in the space, and use these to derive a loud yet cohesive pattern for your minor accents, like the pair of tribal print throw pillows.

The type of material used for your coffee table doesn't matter if you're going for an eclectic look because you have utmost freedom as to what to mix and match. Accentuate it with travel mementos, vintage boxes, glass vases, brass pieces, and wood-carved figurines. You may also add an array of coffee table books that discuss history and culture.



DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Modern homes are dominated by clean lines, sleek furniture pieces, and minimalist accents. This style thus becomes the ideal backdrop for heavily patterned throw pillows, which, because of their bold colors, add warmth to a space. It is also best to set them against solid colors, like a plain leather accent chair, to make the design stand out without overpowering the overall unfussy look.

The trick to achieving a modern look is by choosing straightforward table top accessories that bank on simplicity and functionality. Look for pieces that are polished, and are not loud on colors and prints. It is almost like going back to basics, only with the clever use of vibrant colors as accents to a neutral palette.





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ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE



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PORTICO, ALVEO'S NEWEST LIFESTYLE COMMUNITY WELCOMES URBAN COURTYARD LIVING IN ORTIGAS

A rare breathing space walkable, connected, together. Alveo Land makes its mark in Ortigas with Portico, opening a portal for innovation in a bustling central business district. Through a district-wide mix of everyday essentials, artisanal specialties, and relaxing homes, the city's most desirable destinations—an epic journey no more.

A FRESH LOCALE IN A HIGHLY NETWORKED LOCATION

Home to some of the most desirable destinations and corporate headquarters, Ortigas is a pivotal spot for leisure, lifestyle, and commerce. A 3.6-hectare mixed-use development located along Captain Henry Javier Street, Portico brings together dynamic lifestyles in a breathable urban district. Within the community: shared courtyards, greenways, and classic high-rise and townhouse concepts. Just outside—Ortigas Center's progressive hub seamlessly connected to the best of the metropolis.



The Courtyards at Portico
ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE



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Filipino Flair

Embrace Pinoy pride with these locally crafted items

Produced by Aisne Trinidad | Photographed by Mike Cuevas, Mark Jacob, John Ocampo, and Ed Simon of Studio 100

One of the distinct characteristics of Filipino furniture pieces is being handcrafted and intricately woven using native materials like the popular rattan. Some pieces are accented with glass and steel, making them blend well even in contemporary settings. More than promoting indigenous materials, locally made furniture also speaks of the country's rich culture and longstanding traditions. ■



Candleholders,
price available upon
request at *Triboa Bay
Living*



Bookends, price available upon
request at *Triboa Bay Living*



Vibo stool, P14,651,
available at
Triboa Bay Living



Lulu easy armchair,
price available upon request at
Kenneth Cobonpue Showroom



Tropez easy armchair,
price available upon request at
Kenneth Cobonpue Showroom



Mortar and pestle, price
available upon request at
Triboa Bay Living



Oris tea light,
P811, available at
Triboa Bay Living



Gomez table
lamp, P5,650,
available at
Ylaya



Corvan side chair II, P17,747, available at Triboa Bay Living



Get the Filipino Look

A design that infuses native and indigenous aspects together

Written by Love Ocampo | Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100
Styled by Love Ocampo and Aisne Trinidad

Fluid and clean design elements that flow seamlessly from one to the other are very much like the Filipino's innate ability to blend and assimilate. The result is an intelligently designed space that takes advantage of the corridors with a natural view, garden backdrops, good ventilation, and natural light, while displaying a desire for homegrown materials and a respect for traditional Filipino architectural details.

COLORS
Neutrals with hints of warm colors are employed, with red being the most common textile color used amongst Filipino tribes.

FURNITURE
Filipino design combines traditional and contemporary features that fuse indigenous materials like *rattan*, *capiz*, ethnic textiles, and local wood with high-tech structures, steel works, concrete, and glass.

ACCESSORIES
Combine accessories that are finished with wood, stone, and other indigenous materials.

FABRICS
To veer away from the traditional Filipino look, inject a few Filipino tribal patterns in moderation.

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A COMMUNITY THAT BREATHES



Mañosa Properties, Inc. designs a home with Filipino qualities in mind

*Written by Love Ocampo
Photographed by Ed Simon of Studio 100
Styled by Love Ocampo,
Aisne Trinidad and Cy Yambao*

Culture and climate define a country's architecture, but for a house design to work, it has to address the needs of its dwellers. In the Philippines, nothing illustrates these two aspects better than the *bahay kubo*, perhaps the only example of Philippine architecture free from foreign influence. This is exactly the inspiration of the Ara-al House, which features an airy, open plan design crafted to incorporate green and distinctively Filipino design elements that the Mañosa legacy is known for.

Strongly believing in both the form and function of the *nipa* hut, siblings Dino, Angelo, and Bambi Mañosa founded Mañosa Properties, Inc. (MPI), which offers an artisanal brand of real estate that captures the elements of the *bahay kubo*. The firm's design philosophy is anchored on father Bobby's six-decade-long career, which includes the construction of landmarks like the EDSA Shrine, the Coconut Palace, Amanpulo Resort, and the *Bahay Kubo* Mansion. Following in their father's footsteps, the siblings are now building and designing Filipino living from the ground up that has led to a secluded project in Bonifacio Drive, Tagaytay City called Tagô.

The entrance to the Ara-al House is shaded with landscaped trellises that utilize native plants as insulation from the tropical heat, and homogenous floor tile work with pebble washout border finish.

The Ara-al House is topped by a deeply pitched and multi-angled roof composed of innumerable wood planks that allow heat to dissipate across the living spaces. The home has the signature Mañosa staircase with wide and gradual *señorita* steps, making it more convenient for multiple generations (the children and the elderly, most especially). The ground level reveals a living area connected to the dining space, where the family is pictured to be gathering from morning until evening.





Behind the dining area is the kitchen that has a modernized *banggerahan*, which naturally dries kitchen implements.



Left: A reading corner is situated below the varnished hardwood stair treads and next to the ground floor bedroom. **Right:** A 33-square meter bedroom on the ground floor is where the senior family members are meant to reside. Bambi Mañosa-Tanjutco, the interior designer of this home, has chosen woven rattan mat for the accent ceiling and woven PVC for the built-in modular closet doors that allow air to circulate.



Intrinsic to every Mañosa design is a deep respect and love for the land it lies on. With the goal of building authentic Filipino ancestral homes intended to span multiple generations, the Tagô development uses locally sourced sustainable materials and native design elements wherever possible. Bamboo, coconut, mat weaving, native stones, recycled lumber, and a mix of farmed and reclaimed wood are utilized in both the exteriors and interiors. Even the signature Mañosa staircase with *señorita* steps, the *banggerahan* used for the natural drying of dishes, as well as Mañosa-designed wooden wall lamps and other accessories contribute to the house's classic Filipino touches.

Tagô highlights a series of environment-friendly features, harnessing both nature and technology to showcase green design at its finest. Private gardens and landscaping are painstakingly planned to utilize plants that are edible and endemic to the area. High-pitched ceilings, tilted wide windows, and a clear center space

allow for excellent cross-ventilation and abundant natural light, minimizing the need for electrically powered cooling and lighting. In the Ara-al home, energy-saving lighting systems, energy star-rated kitchen appliances, and gas-powered washing machines and dryers are offered as options. A rainwater collection system, as well as dual- and low-flush toilets, contributes to the community's water conservation. Even a waste management program for household help is in place as part of a community-wide zero-waste endeavor.

The climate, quality of air, openness, surrounding nature, and exquisite design of the Ara-al House reflect the five major advantages of living in the subdivision. Imagine waking up in this sloping property with magnificent views of a densely lush rolling terrain. When the lot looks out onto never-ending greenery, who wouldn't be drawn to this Mañosa property in Tagaytay? 



*Intrinsic to every Mañosa design is a deep respect
and love for the land it lies on*



Left: The family room on the second floor is surrounded by hardwood with wrought iron handrails. The absence of walls is intended to promote communication and natural ventilation. **Right:** The wide windows found in the original *bahay kubo* are retained to allow passive cooling, cross-ventilation, and ample amounts of natural light to penetrate the living spaces.

HOMES

The high-pitched roof shields the home from solar radiation and allows rain to shed quickly. The significant play of indigenous materials makes it a completely energy-efficient structure.





HIDDEN FROM VIEW

Not too far from the city stands an open plan home

*Written by Love Ocampo
Photographed by Ed Simon of Studio 100*

Have you ever dreamt of residing in a private subdivision that is both accessible and away from city chaos? The newly conceptualized community of Tagô might be the most ideal option because aside from being located along the quiet strip of Bonifacio Drive, it is merely 300 meters away from the cluster of restaurants in Tagaytay. The exclusive village of 52 homes carries the Mañosa trademark of Filipino architecture and green design. Enveloped in rich foliage, the gate opens up to homes connected by gardens—a design that embraces the essence of its natural surroundings through indigenous materials, green zones, air passageways, and wide spaces.

The Adobe House, in particular, is a two-storey modern Filipino home that employs open space planning. “The open spaces in this home make for a practical layout that can work with any furniture arrangement,” says Dino Mañosa, CEO of Mañosa Properties, Inc.

The use of natural materials is evident throughout the house, such as in the bamboo flooring and adobe stones found both inside and outside. “Because the weather gets smoggy, we opted to minimize the use of wood,” says Dino Mañosa.





Incorporated in the home is an abundance of energy-efficient features, sustainable materials sourced locally, and plants that are edible and endemic to the land. Glass windows and sliding doors let natural light in, illuminating all areas.

The cold climate intrinsic to Tagaytay City served as an inspiration for this Tagô home's open-plan layout. Green zones, air passageways, and wide spaces bring the gardens inside to allow the house to breathe. Meanwhile, the significant play of indigenous materials conveys the climate-conscious design of the *bahay kubo* and reveals that it's the original sustainable shelter in the country.





The open space typically seen below a native *nipa* hut's stilts is recreated at the center of the home to expand its verdant landscape.

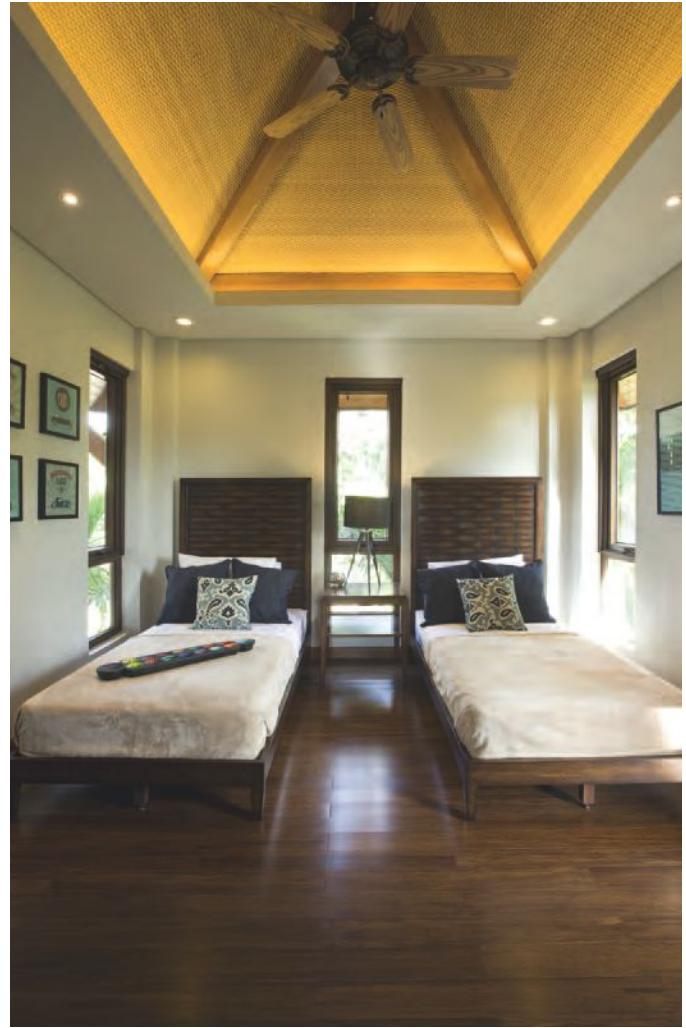






The Adobe House incorporates windows that promote passive cooling and allow ample amounts of natural light in. The second floor landing serves as an additional entertaining area for guests during weekends. Scattered around the home are carefully selected antique pieces, reflecting a quiet thoughtfulness that mirrors the homeowners' personality.

Designed to be accessible for people of all ages, the Adobe House is worth investing in as a possible retirement home



Left: The staircase layout makes way for a niche intended as a reading or lounging area. **Right:** The clever use of indigenous materials such as inlaid coconut, mat weaving, native stones, cultivated and farmed lumber, and wood lowers the home's carbon footprint.

“Sliding doors in front and at the back of the house lead to either a garden or a small pond.” The firm took advantage of Tagaytay’s cool climate, so all homes are designed to let sunlight and cool air in. “We envisioned it to be a green community with lots of edible landscape, especially since Tagaytay has fantastic soil,” adds Dino. Hence, the property is peppered with plants and herbs like basil, lemongrass, and calamansi.

Designed to be accessible for people of all ages, the Adobe House is worth investing in as a possible retirement home. Elder members of the family can occupy the master bedroom downstairs, with the *señorita* steps making going up and down the stairs easier. One can

also enjoy the Tagô clubhouse with generous veranda spaces ideal for family parties, which are all enveloped in the soundproof landscape that maintains privacy during events. The central park with a fish pond also serves as an immediate private garden for the nearby Ara-al House, while at the same time serving as the community green space where residents gather for early morning strolls or conversations until sunset hours.

Tagô, as its name suggests, is a secret getaway that needs to be discovered. Its high elevation and verdant panorama endows the community with a crisp climate, making it ideal for day trips, sports and activities, and various versions of refuge. 

*Tagô, as its name suggests,
is a secret getaway that needs
to be discovered*



The framework of the Adobe House is inventively supported by multiple crests—a split interpretation of the high-pitched roof of the traditional *bahay kubo*. Patterned pebbles in washout finish and paver blocks are used in the garage area. “We like to leave a lot of open space and not consume every buildable square meter,” says Dino.

The community of Tagô is master-planned to utilize the surrounding natural beauty and is limited to only 52 homes to provide a secure, close-knit environment.



Filipino Feast

Introduce a local ambiance to your dining experience

Written by Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi | Photographed by John Ocampo of Studio 100

Styled by IDr. Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran of Moss Manila | Assisted by Lori Dawn Castrence, Raiza Riva, Francesca Tingcungco and Bianca Uy of Moss Manila

Filipiniana no longer has to mean wooden boards and banana leaves. Give your table setting a fresh look with a light palette of beiges reminiscent of the traditional Maria Clara and barong Tagalog costumes, as well as by highlighting the use of local materials like *capiz*, *abaca* and *rattan*. Keep most of the arrangements low, incorporate round shapes for a more current appeal, and punctuate with a simple yet towering arrangement that resembles the abundant palm trees lining the Philippine shores. 





Use soft greens for your table napkins and decorative foliage as a thoughtful nod to the ubiquitous banana leaf.

Country Cure

Evoke nostalgia with earth tones and vintage pieces

Produced by Aisne Trinidad | Photographed by Mike Cuevas, Mark Jacob, John Ocampo, and Ed Simon of Studio 100

While it is true that a traditional country aesthetic is defined by plaids and florals, modern rustic is another style to consider when designing a country home. Take inspiration from your grandmother's attic and bank on rustic pieces like distressed wooden furniture, quilted fabrics, and vintage accessories. Give emphasis to these earth-toned elements to bring in the warmth and comfort that a country home should manifest. **mh**



Rope sphere, price available upon request at *The Pietro Collection*



Bronze wall clock with easel, P3,450, available at *Pottery Barn*



Marlowe ceramic pitcher vase, P5,950, available at *Pottery Barn*



Table lamp, price available upon request at *The Pietro Collection*



Décor, price available upon request at *The Pietro Collection*



Throw, P2,950, available at *Pottery Barn*

Basket weave pillow, P995, available at *Pottery Barn*



Basket, P1,450, available at *Muji*



Coffee table, P19,500, available at *Pottery Barn*



Lansing leather recliner, P120,000, available at *Pottery Barn*



Striped pillow, price available upon request at Muji



Basket weave pillow, P995, available at Pottery Barn



Dressage small lantern, P4,950, available at Pottery Barn



Glass lantern, price available upon request at The Pietro Collection



Plaid pillow, price available upon request at Muji



Knitted throw, P1,450, available at Pottery Barn



Ketak coasters, P265 each, available at Muji



Ketak placemat, P835, available at Muji



Architecte 2 drawer coffee table, price available upon request at Roche Bobois

Turner leather armchair, P115,000, available at Pottery Barn



Ashby Tallboy dresser, P59,500, available at Pottery Barn



Jennings rug, P6,950, available at Pottery Barn

Get the Country Look

Rustic style as reflected by timeworn pieces and rurally rooted designs

Written by Love Ocampo | Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100
Styled by Love Ocampo and Aisne Trinidad

Characteristically casual and cozy, country decorating is all about comfort. It is a wide-ranging style that depends on geographical location, but is generally exemplified by primitive furniture, earthy neutral colors, milk-paint finishes, and vintage fabrics.

ACCESSORIES

A handmade, homespun quality permeates country-style accessories, which include baskets, carved wooden bowls and candle holders, pottery, pewter, and hand-forged metal accents.



PLANTS

A few pots of greens on the floor or table can instantly make the room cozier.

FURNITURE

Flea markets and your grandma's attic are the perfect spots for finding treasures for a country-themed home. Look for pieces with straight lines, painted finishes, and very little ornamentation.

FABRICS

Florals, plaid, and stripes printed on calico fabric add visual interest and color to an understated country room. If you want to veer away from a masculine look, go for pillows in dainty prints.

COLORS

Soft, muted colors coupled with aged finishes are indicative of a rustic country style. A more contemporary country look may feature a brighter color palette with accents of red, black, or pure white to set off the design.

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RANDMOTHER'S TALE

This early American country style home has been bringing an entire clan together for almost three decades now

*Written by Cy Yambao
Photographed by Mike Cuevas of Studio 100*

The story began in 1986, when a couple and their youngest daughter eagerly moved into their new home, which, at the time, was still far from completion. From having only the bedrooms, the kitchen with a breakfast area, and the helpers' quarters three decades ago, the house has come a long way—expanding as the family living in it likewise grew in number. One thing, however, remained constant: the early American country design that influenced succeeding generations to style their respective homes in the same manner.

"I guess the reason my grandmother, as well as all her children, gravitated towards country design is because the style is very simple, warm, and family-oriented," shares one of the grandsons, who spent his bachelor years living in his grandmother's attic. "It's all about a comfortable home that is steeped in traditions and handing down cherished furniture pieces from generation to generation."

It took a lifetime of scouring through antique shops, garage sales, and second-hand stores both locally and abroad for his grandmother to gradually fill the country home with vintage furniture, quilts, and copper and ceramic pieces.

The formal living room spells early American country style with its use of natural wood, traditional fabrics and patterns, and vintage furniture. Some of the major pieces in this area were taken from the family's Baguio house, which has been sold several years ago. "There is an abundance of comfortable armchairs and sofas because, simply put, there are a lot of family members to seat," shares the grandson.





“I guess the reason my grandmother, as well as all her children, gravitated towards country design is because the style is very simple, warm, and family-oriented”

Above: The foyer keeps the same setup that has greeted numerous guests for decades now. It is comprised of vintage furniture pieces and accessories from the family's former home, one being the wooden bench that was refinished by the family's long-time master painter and furniture restorer.

She is always satisfied with a good bargain, but is also very particular with the quality, comfort, and function of every piece she brings home. Especially with a clan that now exceeds the 60-member count, a grandmother only wishes to build a home that can withstand the test of time and continue to be the designated gathering place in the years to come.

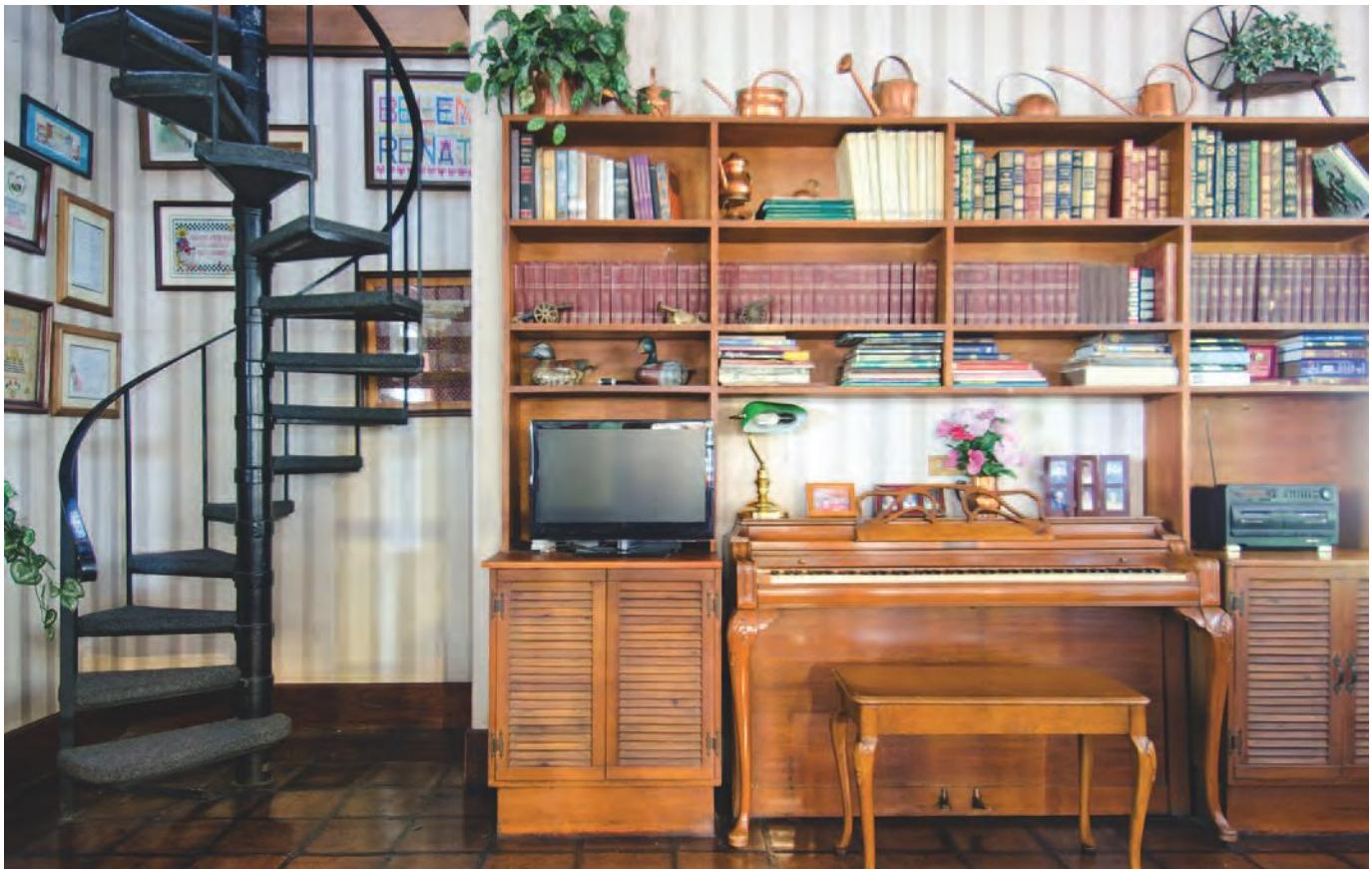
“Nothing is bought for bragging rights or because it was featured in this magazine or TV show. No precious antiques to worry about—just good, well-constructed pieces,” the grandson explains. “It can be a flea market find or a pricey mall purchase, but in the end serves a family whose only pastime is eating while spending time with each other.”

It must be a grandmother’s innate caring nature that honed this house to become a welcoming refuge for both relatives and friends who’d sometimes randomly drop by. Whether there are special occasions to celebrate or the family just longs for conversations over food, this country home is always overflowing with warmth and pleasant memories.

“My grandmother says visitors feel the happiness in this house, the same thing they would say about my grandparents’ old home—and that’s exactly the point of why this house is the way it is,” says the grandson. 



Because television use has significantly decreased, the TV room has been converted into a family room where one can take afternoon naps after heavy Sunday lunches. This is the same place in which Bible studies are held weekly.



On one side of the family room is a piano older than any of the owners' grandchildren, positioned in the middle of a built-in bookcase filled with well-loved classics. The spiral staircase on the left leads to a fully furnished attic, which used to be a living quarters complete with toilet and bath.



Before the homeowners got accustomed to having breakfast by the kitchen, this buffet table in the formal dining room has been used to hold large amounts of food served during family get-togethers. On the antique shelf are red-and-white chinaware, alternately collected with blue-and-white ones.

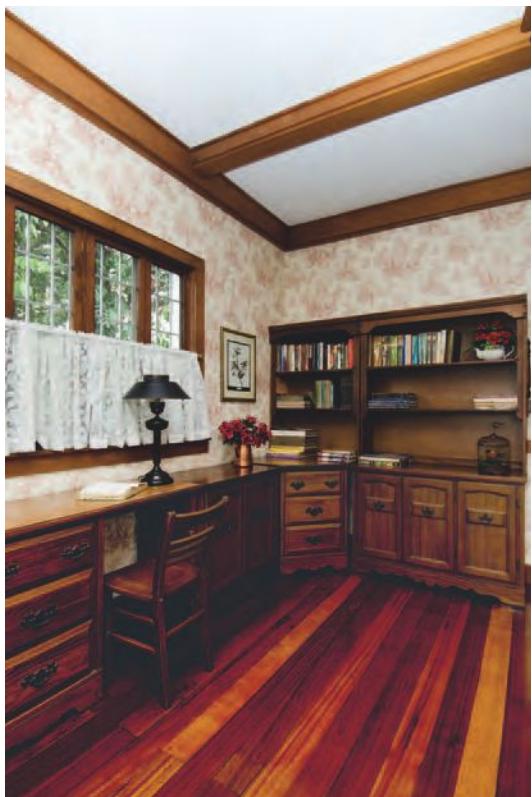
*It must be a
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randomly drop by*

Below: Although the kitchen is seldom used, it is conveniently connected to the family's *de facto* dining room. This primarily functions as the breakfast room, but is where all other meals are served as well.

Right: "The house is one big display of my grandmother's country knickknacks—anything from interesting colored bottles to cast-iron nutcrackers," shares the owners' grandson. The dog-shaped nutcracker, in particular, has already been used for decades during Christmas reunions.



HOMES



Top left: "The guestroom has undergone at least 5 renovations over the years, as it served as a temporary bedroom for relatives who are having their homes built or renovated," says the grandson. Visiting family friends from the US and Australia likewise occupy this space when on vacation. **Bottom left:** The furniture pieces in the second guestroom have all been taken from the family's former home. They have been accustomed to simply changing wallpapers to give the space a revamped look every few years. **Right:** After the owner's youngest sister moved out, her bedroom was converted into a second guestroom, where family members take afternoon naps after their usual Sunday lunches.



Whether there are special occasions to celebrate or the family just longs for conversations over food, this country home is always overflowing with warmth and pleasant memories



Left: In the late 90s, the back porch with Bermuda grass became a terrace, which is now converted into an enclosed dining hall where the entire clan can sit together during regular Sunday lunches. It is also a repository of the owner's Coca-Cola collection, which she first started acquiring from antique shops before receiving them as gifts from family and friends. **Right:** The family chose Vigan tiles for the dining hall because of their warmth, easy maintenance, and affordability. The space is comprised of several sets of tables that can seat up to 70 people.



Top: A signature element in country homes are wicker outdoor furniture, such as these woven cane tables, chairs, and benches at the patio. These age-old pieces are painted and upholstered every five years to maintain their visual quality and comfort. **Bottom:** An expansive front lawn is a favorite among the grandchildren and great grandchildren of the homeowners. This is also where children's parties usually take place.

Country Fair

Recreate a verdant scenery with this country style setup

Written by Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi | Photographed by John Ocampo of Studio 100

Styled by IDr. Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran of Moss Manila | Assisted by Lori Dawn Castrence, Raiza Riva, Francesca Tingcungco and Bianca Uy of Moss Manila

A country style table setting reminds one of the Indian summer and autumn harvests, as reflected in burnt orange and warm yellow tones accompanied by wheatlike foliage. The centerpiece, which should feel bountiful yet organic, plays an important role in bringing life to the setup. Use succulents and produce with rustic accents, such as wood and birds arranged in varying heights. So as not to go completely overboard, opt for more modern, angular plates in colors that reflect the arrangement and streamlined glassware. Flatware should still be a little heavier, so that guests can really dig in to that country stew. 





Add reclaimed touches like vintage bottles that may double as vases, burlap fabric, and rumpled linen for that relaxed country atmosphere.

Bohemian Like You

Liberate your free spirit with an exotic array of items

Produced by Aisne Trinidad | Photographed by Mike Cuevas, Mark Jacob, John Ocampo, and Ed Simon of Studio 100

There are no rules to live by when decorating Bohemian-style. Much like your free-spirited character, it is full of life through a mix of bold prints, heavy textures, and vibrant colors. Decorative pieces speak so much of culture and history, usually originating from Middle Eastern countries. If you're more on the minimalist side, make use of fabrics like rugs, throws, beddings, and curtains to achieve a boho-chic style. ■



Single swan sugar holder, P900, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



White metal jar with peacock cover, P1,800, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Etched glass candelabra, P4,000, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Firuze plate set, P5,990, available at Alinea Manila



Enamel-painted window panels, P25,000, available at OM Lifestyle and Café

Hand-quilted antique Saree throws, P7,500 each, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Medium Katung basket, P1,999.75, available at L'Indochine



Mixed print pillow case, P1,299.75, available at L'Indochine



Sequined wire-embroidered pillow, P1,500, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Hanging wall evil's eye, P750 (medium) and P1,800 (large), available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Hanging lamp, P2,999.75, available at L'Indochine



Blue glass candelabra, P6,500, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Triangle pillow, P2,999.75, available at L'Indochine



Gold leaf lacquer box (set of 3), P12,999.75, available at L'Indochine



Ceramic leaf shape bowl (set of 4), P600, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Mangkok, P699.75, available at L'Indochine



Assorted Tibetan brass animal figurines, P350-500, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Medium Sok basket, P999.75, available at L'Indochine



Assorted printed ceramic plates and trays, P150-1,800, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



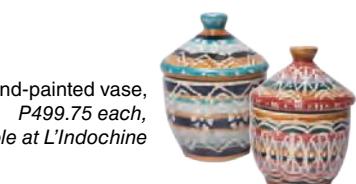
Graduating brass bowls, P950, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Hand-quilted antique Saree throws, P7,500 each, available at OM Lifestyle and Café



Hand-painted tray, P999, available at L'Indochine



Hand-painted vase, P499.75 each, available at L'Indochine

Cushion, price available upon request at BoConcept



Batik lamp, P2,999.75, available at L'Indochine



Cushion, price available upon request at BoConcept



Two-toned bench, P12,499.75, available at L'Indochine



Thai-style stool, P7,499.75, available at L'Indochine

Get the Bohemian Look

A style full of multi-cultural references, rich colors, textures, and prints

Written by Love Ocampo | Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100
Styled by Love Ocampo and Aisne Trinidad

Bohemian decorating is for those who want their homes to become full of life, cultures, and interesting items. It flies in the face of modern sensibilities while at the same time embracing the carefree, the relaxed, and the unusual. That said, Bohemian-inspired rooms tend to have certain similarities—they share quite the same features yet no two are completely alike.

COLORS

There are no rules when it comes to Bohemian decorating, but warm earthy colors are equally common as metallics. Think brown, terra cotta, gold, and other colors in that family. Jewel tones such as saturated purple, fiery orange, and electric blue often make appearances in accessories like tapestries and art. White has no place in a Bohemian room.



FABRICS

Be sure to mix lots of patterns, use tie-dye, and opt for colors that wouldn't necessarily go together in a conventional way. Layer throws and pillows on top of furniture, and hang tapestries, wood carvings, and area rugs on the wall.

FURNITURE

Bohemian furniture can't be bought in just any old store, as rooms inspired by that style are full of furniture collected over time, including secondhand and vintage items. The most common type of furniture you'll find in Bohemian rooms is Victorian in nature. Think chaises and fainting couches with carved dark wood frames and have saturated colors.

ACCESSORIES

Accessories in Bohemian rooms should be special and tell the story of the people who live there. Ornate boxes, vintage bottles, maps, and mismatched china—you name it. Bohemians travel so that the curated items look like they've been collected from around the world. Also keep in mind that just because Bohemian tends to be offbeat, it cannot anymore be glamorous. You may resort to using crystal chandeliers and ornate gold mirrors.

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The American Standard Design Award Asia Pacific 2015 challenges the creativity and originality of young inspiring design students to come up with sanitary product designs and bathroom space concepts. This is the first design competition by American Standard and is a platform that will showcase the best talents among the young design community.

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CATEGORY 3
PRODUCT CONCEPT DESIGN AWARD - FITTINGS (FAUCET)

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30 APRIL 2015 DEADLINE FOR ENTRY SUBMISSIONS

1-15 MAY 2015 JUDGING (ROUND 1)

29 MAY 2015 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ROUND 1 FINALISTS

1-12 JUNE 2015 SUBMISSION OF VIDEOS FOR BATHROOM SPACE DESIGN ROUND 1 FINALISTS

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- Finalists from each category will be flown to Singapore for the Award Ceremony.
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- Only 1 submission per candidate per category, but candidate can participate in more than 1 category
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When creating your own droplights, remember that the lowest pendant should approximately be the same as your height, to ensure that the entire dining space is sombrely lit.

FREE SPIRIT

Chef Sabrina Artadi builds a culturally inspired home within restrained perimeters and a limited budget

*Written by Cy Yambao
Photographed by Greg Mayo
Styled by Aisne Trinidad*

“**T**his is not a house for the rich,” claims chef Sabrina Artadi, who has always looked at challenges—in this case the challenge of utilizing a relatively small corner lot—as an opportunity to push one’s limits. “I find that when you have all the money in the world, it’s much harder. But when you’re faced with restricted space and limited budget, you’re forced to zero in on the practical aspects.”

The bulk of renovations after having moved in two years ago went to breaking down several walls and converting rows of windows into open pathways. This strategy of visually expanding the property’s perimeters can be attributed to Sabrina’s constant longing for breezy spaces that, despite having just the right amount of greenery, convey a lush ambiance right from the entrance doors. She intentionally positioned the four corners of her two-storey home a few feet away from the dividing property walls, so that there is a sense of depth immediately upon walking into the house.

Chef Sabrina Artadi has developed the habit of mixing different ethnicities in her home, which, while retaining their respective aesthetic, manage to work together. The wooden dining table, which doubles as Sabrina’s work desk, is paired with four cushioned seats and two woven chairs on opposite ends. Crowning the space are Moroccan-inspired droplights that inject a pop of color to the dominantly neutral palette, and adding more depth is an intricately carved wood panel that is alternatively used as a decorative piece.



After having traditional and country-style kitchens in her two previous homes, respectively, Sabrina opted for a stainless steel cooking space this time around. The island where she primarily cooks doubles as a bar, which promotes interaction with family and friends. "When you entertain, you have to be relaxed and not make your guests feel stressed. Let them become a part of what you're doing," shares Sabrina.



Sabrina created a hanging display out of her most prized pots and pans to reduce the hassle of having to look for them inside cabinets and drawers. "Aside from being a space-saver, this also makes it easier for family members to just come and cook," she advises.



For aesthetic purposes, Sabrina decided to outline the open pathways leading to the lanai with beams. "When viewed with the kitchen located at the far end, these beautiful rustic beams suggest a contrast to the coldness of stainless steel," she explains.

“I really don’t take things too seriously, so if something doesn’t work, there’s always another option. That’s simply the way it goes”



Sabrina is fond of do-it-yourself projects like this rustic coffee table, whose top made from Mactan stone sits on wooden legs taken from some of her house's old beams.

While the carefully planned structure of the home is a non-negotiable for Sabrina, the interiors tell a different story. “I really don’t plan things,” she admits. “I just go with the current, and I drive people crazy that way.” Her free-spirited character is best conveyed in each curated space comprised of unexpected vintage finds, do-it-yourself furniture pieces and accessories, and self-painted artwork—all of which resulted from impulsive trips to thrift stores, innate resourcefulness, and sudden bursts of emotions. “I really don’t take things too seriously, so if something doesn’t work, there’s always another option. That’s simply the way it goes,” adds Sabrina.

Ethnicity likewise plays a significant role in the interiors of Sabrina’s dwelling, with a diverse mix of cultures managing to work together

despite maintaining their respective aesthetic. From Filipino dining sets and Moroccan-inspired lamps to Arabian wall décor and African patterns, Sabrina is able to bring a piece of the world home without necessarily crossing borders. Her major influence, however, comes from having been formerly married to a Middle Eastern, and thus spending two years of her life being immersed in a culture that gives high regard to food, fashion, architecture, and design.

Sabrina might have been right that her house is not for the rich, but only because she isn’t one to spend a fortune on luxury furniture pieces and accessories. “I want both family members and guests to enjoy, without having to think about staining this or that,” she cites. “This is life for me. Practicality and character are what matter most to me.” ■



"When I bought this house, I had a vision already, but I didn't think it would come out this great," shares Sabrina. "We really sit here a lot and just have a nice time."



Sabrina is fond of scouring through thrift shops, particularly in Evangelista, to look for pieces that are worth more than what she's paying for. "I just really like unexpected finds, which a lot of people are also accustomed to doing now," she says. Even her throw pillow covers (as well as the seat cushions in the dining area) are ingeniously made from old carpets, which Sabrina has bought for her seamstress to recreate. "Someone probably got blind for weaving that in Pakistan, for instance," she says, stating one of the reasons why she comes up with new ways of preventing these valuable items from going to waste.





From Filipino dining sets and Moroccan-inspired lamps to Arabian wall décor and African patterns, Sabrina is able to bring a piece of the world home without necessarily crossing borders

Left: When Sabrina moved into this house two years ago, the first thing she did was convert an entire row of windows into open walkways. "When you're looking at small properties, you have to open walls and allow spaces to face the garden, so that you don't feel cooped up," she shares. "Maybe in my past life, I was trapped somewhere that I ended up wanting to be in open spaces now." The lanai, which runs from end-to-end of Sabrina's property, provides ample seating provisions where guests can comfortably lounge. On other occasions, the outdoor furniture sets are replaced with a long table, wherein a group of almost 20 can enjoy the food. **Bottom:** Sabrina best expresses her emotions through painting. Displayed around the house are personal creations that remind her of significant life experiences, as well as simple pleasures and memorable moments. The artwork frames, which are made out of fascia boards and dabbed with paint using a cloth, likewise reflect Sabrina's resourcefulness and creativity. "The value of an artwork is not in the artist or the price, but in how it grabs you. I want to look at paintings that bring me joy," she explains.



Sabrina has always wanted to give her house a sense of depth, so she opened the sliding doors behind her dining area and built a den. This is where her children normally hang out with friends, especially since the sofa can be converted into a bed when guests decide to sleep over. The opposite exit is about a foot away from the dividing property wall, in which Sabrina grew her plants, creating an illusion of added length to the home's perimeters.





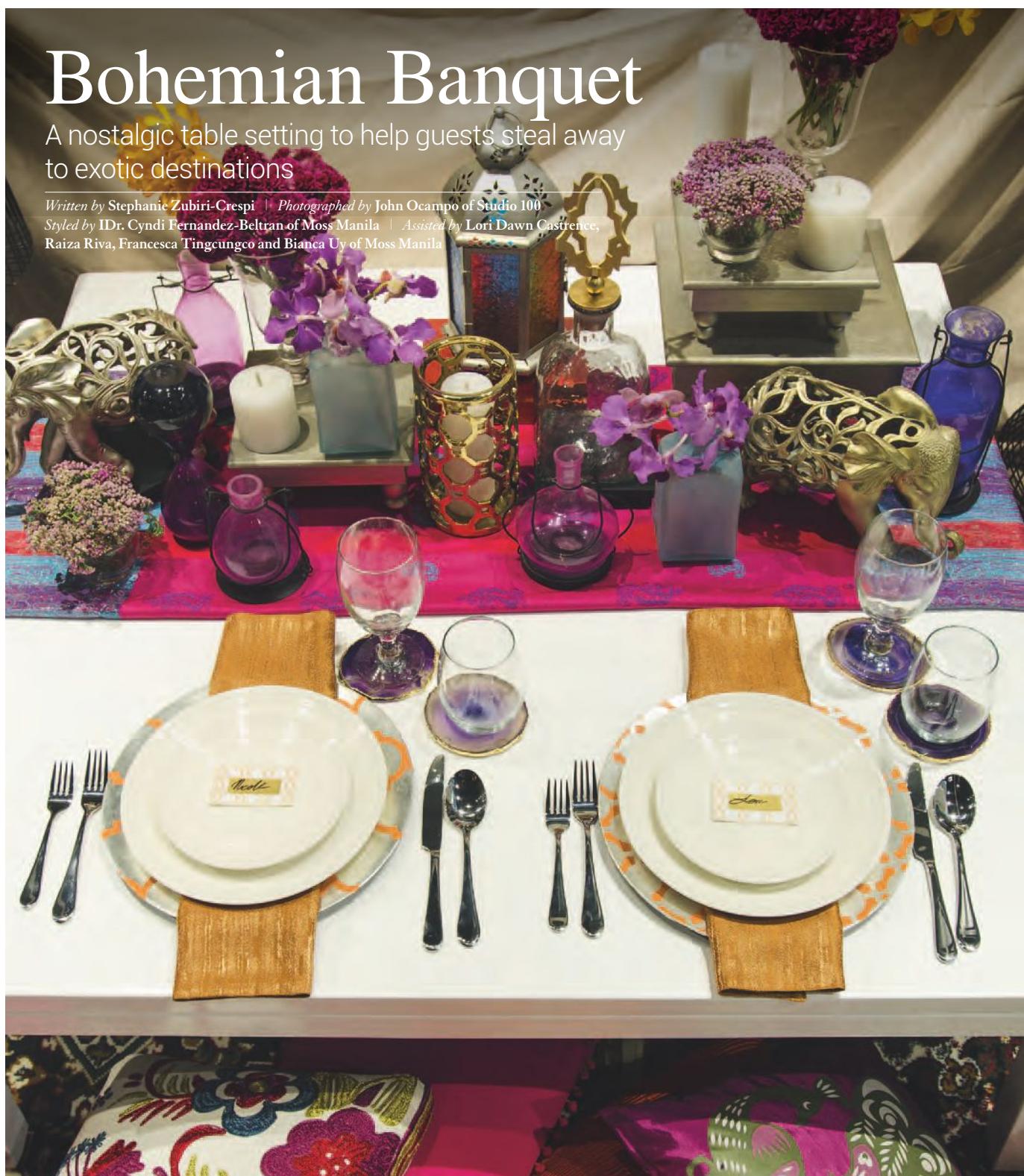
Originally painted in white and gold, the frame of this French-inspired chaise lounge was scraped to highlight the natural texture of the wood. "I needed this for a fashion show, so I replaced the brocade upholstery with animal-printed fabric to give it a modern look," says Sabrina. The white stones scattered throughout her garden serve an important purpose of deflecting mosquitoes, along with citronella candles constantly lit around the house.

Bohemian Banquet

A nostalgic table setting to help guests steal away to exotic destinations

Written by Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi | Photographed by John Ocampo of Studio 100

Styled by IDr. Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran of Moss Manila | Assisted by Lori Dawn Castrence, Raiza Riva, Francesca Tingcungco and Bianca Uy of Moss Manila



This is not your ordinary roast chicken dinner. This is all about the global table and the wandering soul that dreams in saffron and sunset skies. Use accent pieces and flowers that are nostalgic reminders of exotic destinations like elephants, Moroccan lamps, and orchids, to name a few.

Low seating on top of a Persian carpet, coupled with an abundance of pillows, puts guests in the right mood. Don't be afraid to mix patterns, but keep them cultural (think paisley and *ikat*) and unified through color. A Bohemian table setting should feel more like a Maharaja Palace than Ali Baba's cave.



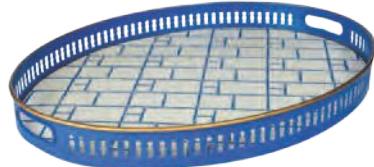
For an extra sense of adventure, use old bed sheets to create light drapings that can conceal other décor and make you feel like you're in a caravan.

Eclectic Magic

Bring an element of surprise with mismatched but well-curated finds

Produced by Aisne Trinidad | Photographed by Mike Cuevas, Mark Jacob, John Ocampo, and Ed Simon of Studio 100

An eclectic design style is becoming more popular today, especially as homeowners search for new possibilities in decorating their homes in a unique manner. Embrace the freedom of mixing and matching various designs, textures, and colors, but remember that there must be a unifying factor in the space. For an eclectic design to work, it must still look cohesive and beautifully curated. ■



Cobalt blue toile oval tray
P4,840, available at
Moss Manila Home



Frankenstein and
Groucho pillows, P850
each, available at
Ylaya Studio



Vintage Italian
seat in Python
print, P20,000,
available at OZ
Gallery



Champa leaf bowl,
P18,000, available at KISH



Table lamp,
P29,000,
available at
KISH



Small avenue credenza, P48,672,
available at Moss Manila Home



Porcelain skull,
P4,900, available at
AC+632



Tea light holder,
P7,500, available
at KISH



Large sapphire
Agate bookends,
P8,940, available at
Moss Manila Home



Dodeca bowl, P6,500 (large)
and pointed hexagon bowl,
P2,900, available at KISH

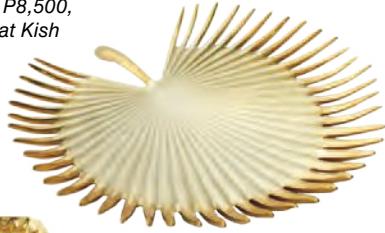


End table, price
available upon request at
The Pietro Collection



Dawn chair, P68,250,
available at Moss
Manila Home

Palm bowl, P8,500,
available at Kish



Pyramid bowl,
P1,900, available
at KISH



Teatre du
Cap D'AL
plate,
available
at Roche
Bobois



Linen pillow, P1,780,
available at AC+632



Coasters (set of 4),
P2,800, available at KISH

Ulta champa 3-top
table, P48,000,
available at KISH



Hexagon tray table,
P39,000, available at
AC+632



Melamine tray,
price available upon request
at The Pietro Collection

Avenue coffee table,
P55,863, available at
Moss Manila Home



Florian large armchair,
price available upon
request at Roche Bobois



Madison bench,
P33,900, available at
Moss Manila Home

Get the Eclectic Look

Marrying different eras and styles in a unified design

Written by Love Ocampo | Photographed by Mike Cuevas of Studio 100
Styled by Love Ocampo and Aisne Trinidad

An eclectic style encompasses a variety of periods and styles, which are brought together through the use of colors, textures, shapes, and finishes. It reshuffles the rule book—mixing and matching old and new, the East and the West, luxe and humble, and showy and subtle. While this design invites you to curate unique finds and objects that strike your fancy, tossing a little of this and that will make the space look like a mess. The liberty and leeway that make eclectic style so appealing can also make it tricky, so you'll need to be careful not to trip over the thin line between contrast and chaos.

COLORS

The element of surprise is a key aspect of eclecticism, and it's often the very thing that makes an eclectic room look cohesive. The palette can vary, but it is best to stick with a few neutrals to help tie all the elements together, so the great design isn't lost among the many hues.

FURNITURE

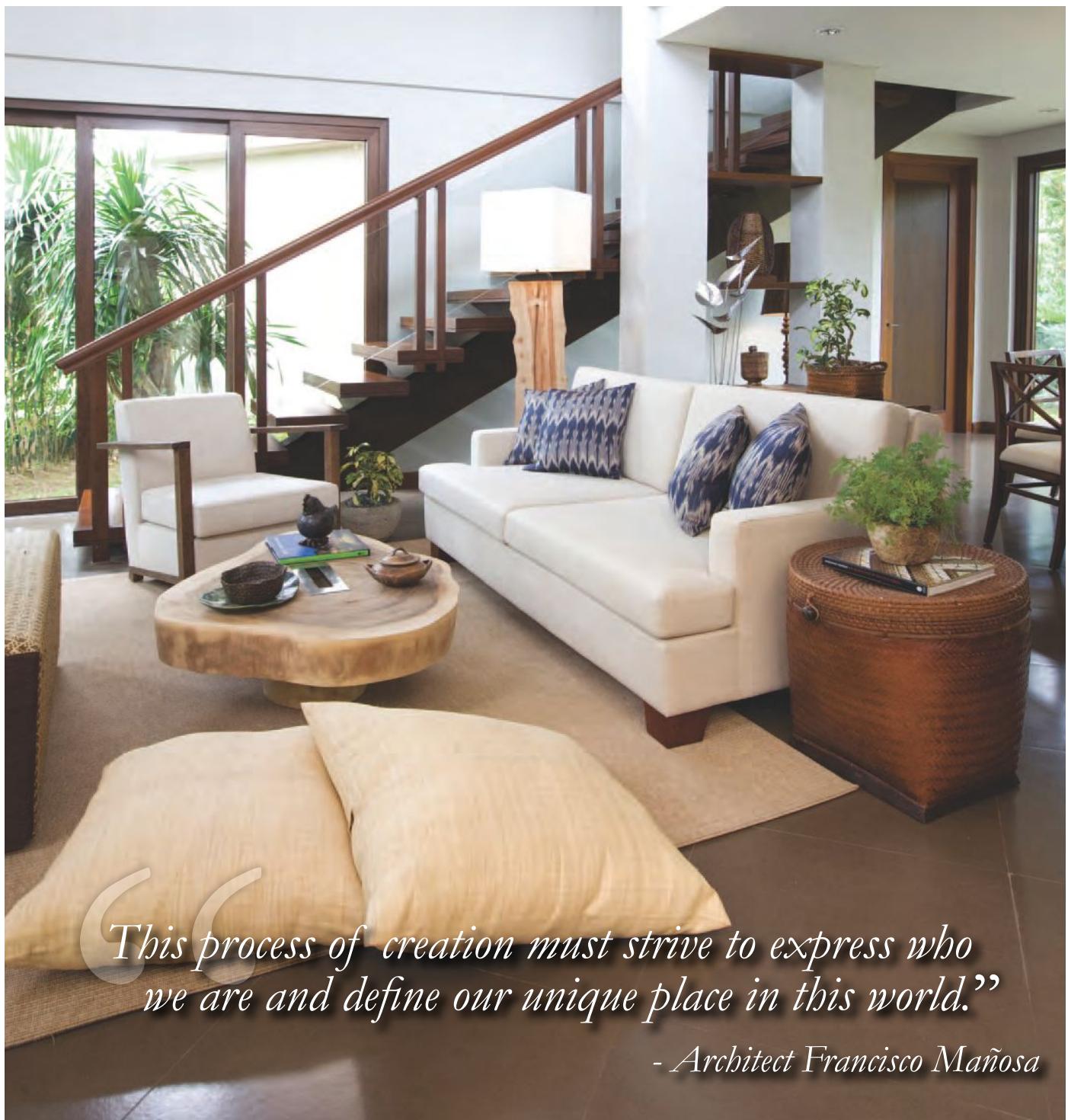
A combination of lines, finishes, textures, and materials are tied together with paint, fabric, or a more refined or roughed up finish that sets an eclectic look apart from the rest.

ACCESSORIES

Grace your shelves with some of your favorite items and add a few personality-packed pieces like a gold skull, sputnik accessories, a magnifying glass, and Agate bookends.

FABRICS

An eclectic look is partly defined by the multitude of fabrics, whether they be patterned, textured, or both. Choose a color scheme and stick to a neutral palette as your grounding force, then accentuate it with colored and textured solids, as well as patterns, trims, tassels, or fringes.



This process of creation must strive to express who we are and define our unique place in this world.”

- Architect Francisco Mañosa

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"This room makes me happy. Every angle it's from, I like how it looks," says Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi of the living area, which is a visual representation of various design styles. The bungalow itself reminds Stephanie of the 50s and 60s era, which is why a mid-Century modern couch anchors the entire space. The neutral palette is complemented by hints of vibrant hues, as well as rows of dominantly abstract paintings. The diverse mix of vintage furniture pieces and handcrafted tabletop accessories are Stephanie's prized possessions, which are either brought home from travels or handed down by parents.



AN EYE FOR STYLE

Columnist and television host Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi defines her eclectic home as the sum of all the things she loves

*Written by Cy Yambao
Photographed by Ed Simon of Studio 100*

Before Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi and her husband Jonathan moved into the bungalow they've been renting since 2010, the house was a total mess. The garden was bare and only had a few potted plants; the living areas were scattered with shoes; and the lanai had none of the tropical furniture and was instead turned into a kids' playground. Given the circumstances, it would have been easy to say no, but Stephanie already fell in love with the house's vintage charm that she had to convince Jonathan how good of a deal it was. "I was like, trust me, just see beyond," she recalls telling her husband.

By seeing beyond, Stephanie meant working around what they're not allowed to renovate in the house, and mixing and matching pieces that span across different eras and several design styles. This eclectic approach to design roots from Stephanie's appreciative nature—of her being fairly easy to please that when something catches her eye, she takes it home and finds it a rightful spot.



Contrary to her feminine workspace, Stephanie's home carries a touch of masculinity. This is exemplified in the vintage 30s Art Deco club chair she scored at a flea market in Paris, whose texture and color give it that old-world feel.



Left: This rustic dining set beside the living area is particularly useful when Stephanie has less people over. The seats are reserved for card games with friends, since she prefers not to have guests sit while eating. Adorning the space is an abstract painting made from old newspapers, the very first artwork that Stephanie acquired when she was still studying in Paris. **Right:** Stephanie's current renovation project: the formal dining area. "When we were still a young couple, it was okay to be fun. But now that we have a baby, I want something warmer, homier, and a bit more classic," she explains. Aside from painting the walls navy blue, Stephanie is replacing her dining chairs of 10 years, as well as taking down the overly colorful artworks to make way for black-and-white ones.

The trick might actually be not having a definite plan in mind and just decorating according to instincts, as how Stephanie has always been doing



"Some people are inclined to a specific style, but I'm one who can appreciate everything," she says, thus explaining why their house appears vintage, mid-Century modern, contemporary, tropical, and rustic all at the same time. "A lot of the pieces I have are actually heirlooms from my mom and grandmother, but they kind of just come together in the end."

The trick might actually be not having a definite plan in mind and just decorating according to instincts, as how Stephanie has always been doing, even back when she was still living on her own in Paris. "I've never worked with a decorator because I like to handpick everything myself and for each piece to have a story," she shares. "I also don't think ahead about how I'll be curating specific spaces because I find that when you overthink, your house can look too much like a showroom. When homes are too fixed, people are not as comfortable." For someone



Above: Because Stephanie enjoys entertaining, it comes as no surprise that her living room is equipped with a well-stocked bar. "I like the idea that someone can ask for a drink and whatever it might be, I can serve it," she shares. "You want a Vodka, a gin soda, a scotch, a single malt—I have it, I can make it." Completing the black-and-white palette of the space are a Tom Epperson hologram and a painting of a bar in Brooklyn looking into New York. **Opposite page:** Most of the pieces presently displayed around Stephanie's home are bought from various artist markets in Paris and inherited from her parents. "My parents had a lot of contemporary art that didn't fit their Mediterranean home anymore, and these turned out to be my style. I like abstract; I like color," says Stephanie, who makes it a point to visit art fairs annually. Her favorite painting by Romulo Olazo greets guests upon entering the glass doors that lead to the living area.



who's always loved to entertain, being able to easily move things out of the table to put food and drinks instead defines a home's liveability.

After almost five years of making this rented bungalow their own, Stephanie and Jonathan believe that the most important thing in building a home is buying furniture pieces and accessories you love then learning how to curate them. "You might really love this piece and at some point it will fit, and on other times, it won't

anymore," says Stephanie. "This is because you evolve, so maybe these paintings, for example, don't suit our lifestyle anymore."

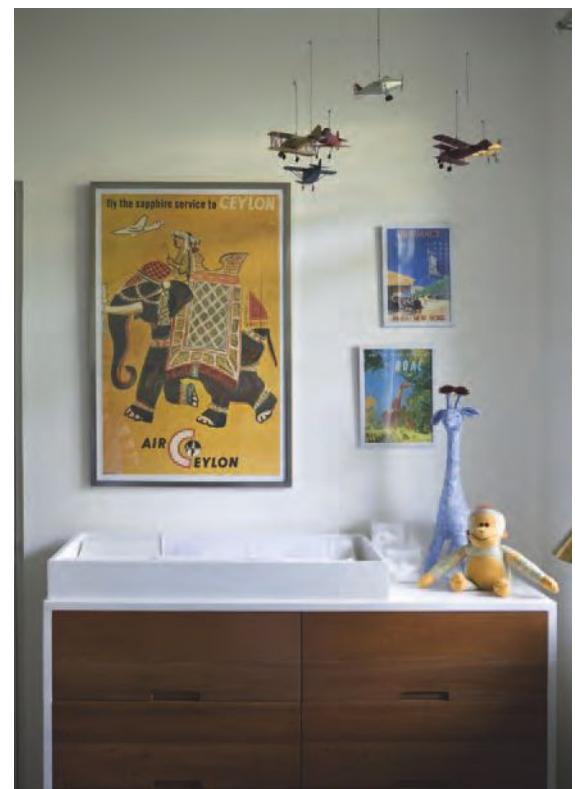
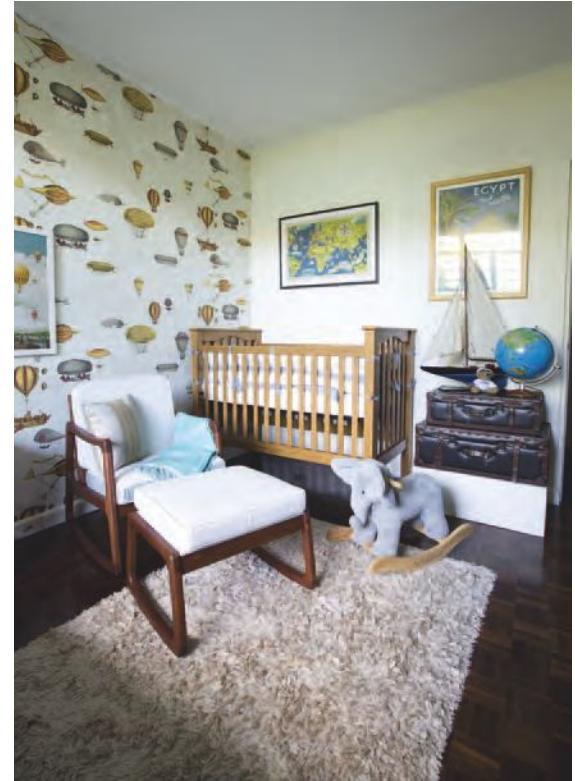
The Crespi residence is on transition phase at the moment, especially with the new addition to their growing family, and the couple is hoping to make their dwelling warmer and a bit more on the classic side. "Just slowly try to replace what you currently have," advises Stephanie. "And trust that if there's a piece that you like, you'll find a place for it anyway." 



"As much as I like bright colors for the more public spaces of our home, I can't stand anything too vibrant in my room," shares Stephanie. The master bedroom is therefore bathed in calm and subdued hues, and adorned with black-and-white pieces of art. A painting by Romulo Olazo hangs above a handcarved console from India, while paintings by Ang Kiukok and a print by Van Hagen accentuate the reading corner.



Top: What used to be the guestroom is now a travel-themed baby's room for Stephanie and Jonathan's firstborn, Sebastian. Aside from the Fornasetti wallpaper, she also gathered travel-related frames, sailboat displays, decorative leather luggages, and a globe figure. "I wanted to make him feel like everyday was an adventure," shares Stephanie. **Bottom:** Stephanie had this cabinet custom-made by Philux, opting to retain the natural stain of the wood for the drawers. The *Air Ceylon* frame that represents the former flag carrier airline of Sri Lanka, where the couple had their honeymoon, is Stephanie's personal favorite.



HOMES

Right in the middle of the foyer is a little indoor garden, which is strategically positioned below the recessed portion of the ceiling. Lining the walls are photographs of keyholes from various doors in Paris that were taken by Stephanie's sister-in-law and curated by Ross Capili.

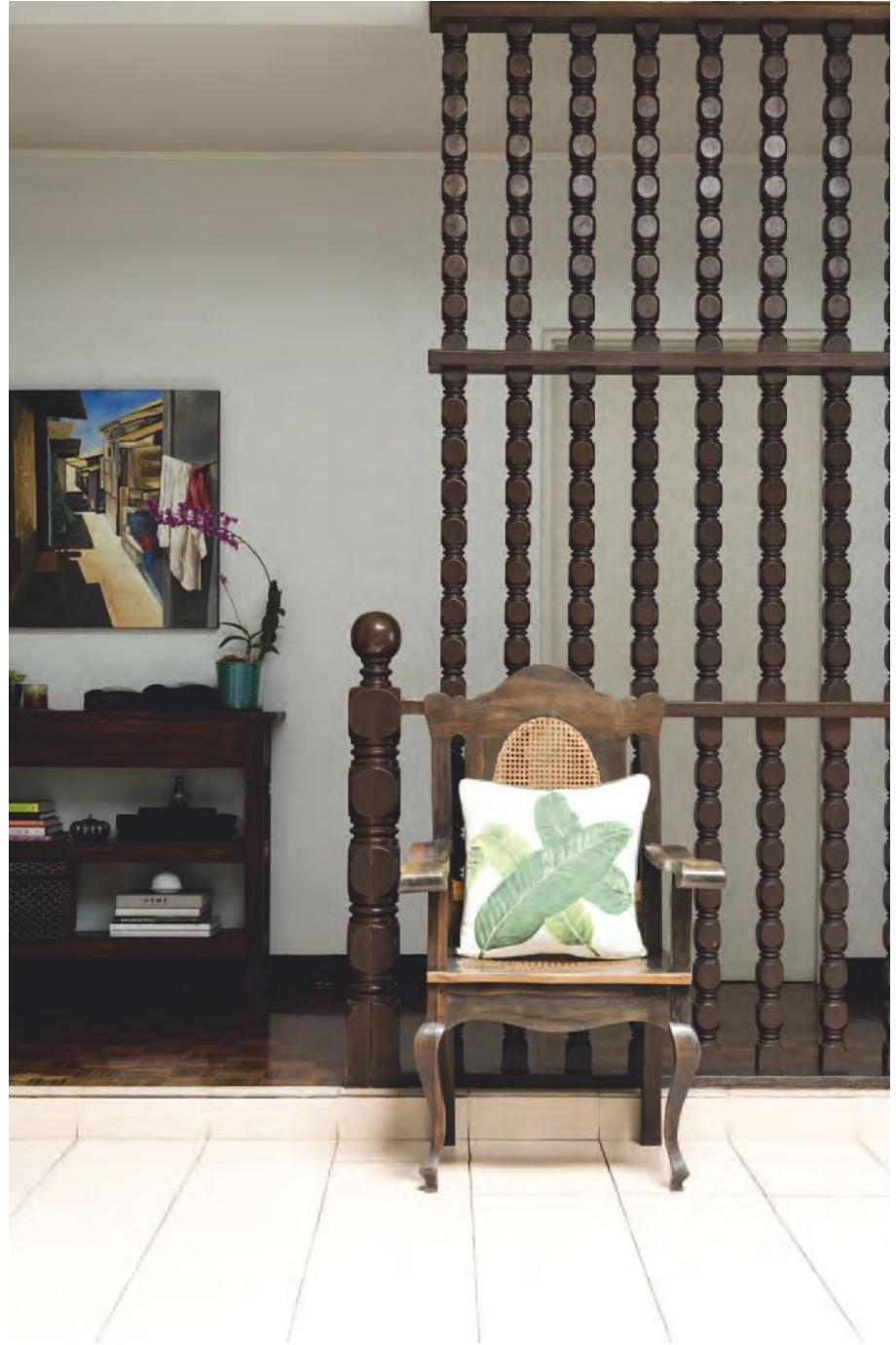


“Some people are inclined to a specific style, but I’m one who can appreciate everything”





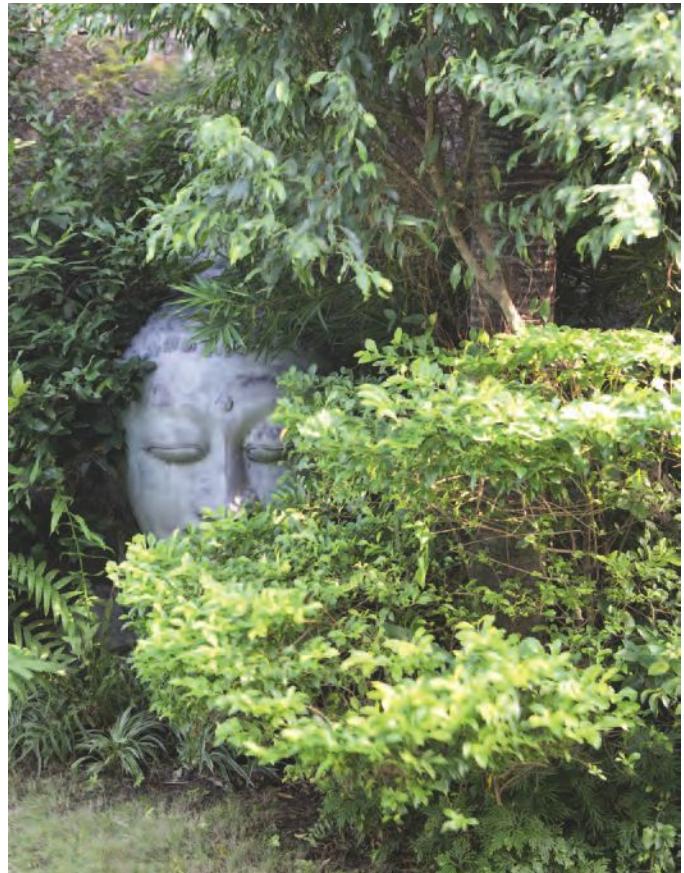
"I saw it and I liked it!" says Stephanie of the ornate console table by the foyer. Deciding on pieces to decorate her home with isn't much of a chore for Stephanie, as she buys whatever catches her eye and just finds a right place for it.



When Stephanie and her husband moved in, the only renovation they did was repaint the walls. "We didn't know how long we were going to stay here, so a lot of the things I kept and grown to like," she says. "I like these balusters. I don't think I will take them out because they're part of the vintage charm of the house."

Stephanie achieved a tropical ambiance in the lanai through a simple set of outdoor furniture, a wooden accent chair she brought home from Paris (which she believes to have been made in the Philippines), newly purchased floral throw pillows, and Indonesian masks impulsively bought at the old Caticlan airport. "The masks are very representative of culture," she says. "Our home is not only an eclectic home, but a multicultural home. My husband and I really love to travel, and learn about different cultures and people."





Top Left: The bar counter was customized using the same wood as Stephanie's buffet table in the formal dining room. "I just copied it because we really like the style," she says. This nook serves as extra seating provisions when the couple invites friends over for an outdoor barbecue party. **Top right and bottom:** "I've always liked being in a house with a garden," says Stephanie. Theirs was landscaped by her father as a housewarming gift. "I love it because it's so lush and festive! We often hold barbecue parties here," she adds.



ENTERTAINING

Eclectic Electric

Mix and match conversation pieces to charm your guests

Written by Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi | Photographed by John Ocampo of Studio 100
Styled by IDr. Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran of Moss Manila | Assisted by Lori Dawn Castrence,
Raiza Riva, Francesca Tingcungco and Bianca Uy of Moss Manila

An eclectic table setting is achieved through a skill in proper curation. Choose key pieces that can stand on their own yet come together in a cohesive manner. There are no superfluous items on the table, as the obelisks, tiny golden Buddha, and striking candelabra in Kelly green carry their respective stories. The marble table is an equally crucial part of the décor, so work around it by using sticker as placemats, instead of hiding it. The same principles apply to mixing and matching chairs, as well as dinnerware. This can't be stressed enough: the most important rule behind eclectic decorating is that each piece should be absolutely stunning. ▲



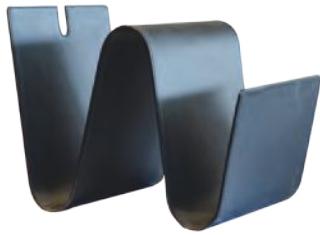


Modern Madness

Take it sleek and easy with these minimalist pieces

Produced by Aisne Trinidad | Photographed by Mike Cuevas, Mark Jacob, John Ocampo, and Ed Simon of Studio 100

Among all design styles, modern has the simplest yet most elegant features. Use minimalist pieces with clean lines and bold colors to ensure that each adds visual impact to the space. Modern homes need breathing spaces, so veer away from displaying too much to prevent a cluttered look. Master the art of working around a focal piece to achieve a daring yet timeless design. ■



Snake magazine rack by Ligne Roset, price available upon request at MOs Design



Pan Pan by Ligne Roset, price available upon request at MOs Design



Parigi occasional table by Ligne Roset, price available upon request at MOs Design



Cushions, prices available upon request at BoConcept



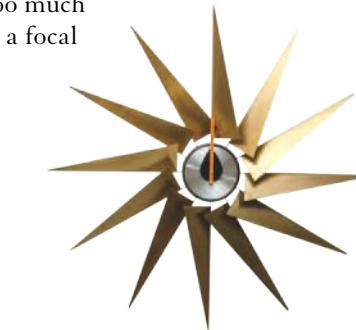
Bidum storage by Ligne Roset, price available upon request at MOs Design



Candleholder, price available upon request at BoConcept



Prismatic table by Vitra, price available upon request at MOs Design



Turbine clock, price available upon request at MOs Design



Pliage vases, prices available upon request at Roche Bobois



Kuta floor lamp, price available upon request at BoConcept



Imola chair, price available upon request at BoConcept

Drop pendant, price available upon request at BoConcept





Rocher chair by Ligne Roset, price available upon request at MOs Design



Cushion, price available upon request at BoConcept

Geomatrix cushion, price available upon request at BoConcept



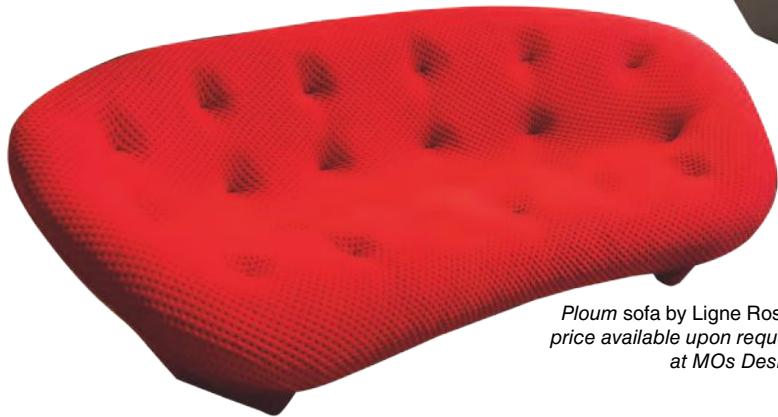
Siro end table, price available upon request at Roche Bobois



Silver décor, price available upon request at BoConcept



Etch Shade brass pendant lights by Tom Dixon, price available upon request at MOs Design



Ploum sofa by Ligne Roset, price available upon request at MOs Design



Schelly chair, price available upon request at BoConcept



Dito rug, price available upon request at BoConcept



Fan stool by Tom Dixon, price available upon request at MOs Design



Precious cocktail table, price available upon request at Roche Bobois



Spun short table, price available upon request at MOs Design



Urban modular sofa, price available upon request at Calligaris

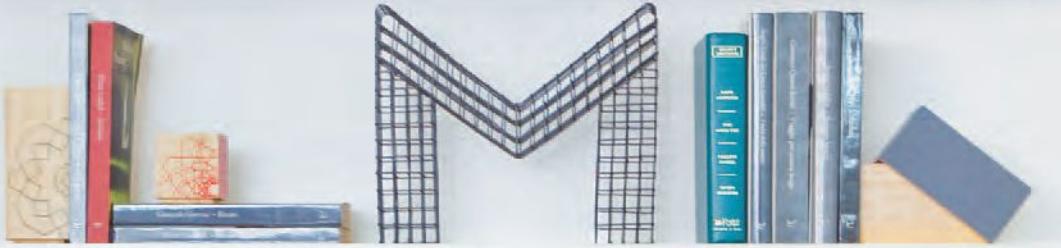
Get the Modern Look

A combination of subtle sophistication and clean lines

Written by Love Ocampo | Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100
Styled by Love Ocampo and Aisne Trinidad

ACCESSORIES

Less is more, so accessories are kept to a minimum. Use accessories to make a bold statement in contemporary style interiors set against a basic background. Don't use ruffles, excessive carved details, fringes, or floral prints. Abolish cute and small. Go basic, bare, bold, and structural.



COLORS

The main palette is dominated by neutrals and accented with bright and bold colors that are used sparingly.



Modern houses focus on structural simplicity, order, and functionality—as evident in monochromatic walls, basic materials, and clean architectural lines. Emphasizing a lack of decoration and the use of minimal textures, modern interior design utilizes straightforward furniture pieces and dramatic modern art to complement the stark architecture. Lighting is also a key structural element that accentuates planes and highlights focal points.

FABRICS

To soften and warm up the space, add heavily textured fabrics in plain colors for window treatments, pillows, or rugs. Colorful, fussy prints should be avoided, since they confuse a plain space that is the key to a modern home. Two-tone prints work well; think about a zebra print pillow on a black leather chair or a heavily textured rug anchored on solid-colored furniture.



FURNITURE

Furniture is sparse, primarily focusing on the function of each piece. Go for those with clean profiles and whose finishes are sleek, smooth, and polished without carvings or details. Furnishings in tone-on-tone color palettes, as well as geometric and angled patterns, also characterize this design style. Metal furniture made of chrome or stainless steel, black or white lacquered finishes, and glass tabletops are likewise used.



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The Curious Collector

A businessman decorates his modern home with pieces that took time and patience to curate

*Written by Daniella Rodriguez | Photographed by Ed Simon of Studio 100
Styled by Love Ocampo*



The greenery outside, framed by a large window, provides an earthy backdrop to the modernity of this home.

Little pops of color and mismatched accessories complement the practical furniture in the living area.



The abundance of windows brings a light and airy energy to this three-storey McKinley Hill home, which was something the owner needed at the particular time he purchased it. A call from his broker during the day of his father's funeral led him to this modern dwelling, ending years of searching for the perfect home.

Apart from minor tweaks, the businessman owner retained the original structure and aesthetic of the interiors. He was adamant about keeping the home's modernity, so he has refused to place any window treatments—even if this means giving prying eyes

a peak into his daily life. "My neighbors know who my guests are!" he jokes.

The personality of his home comes out in the choice of furniture pieces and accessories all set against white angular walls. Quirky finds are juxtaposed with no-nonsense utility furniture; high-end chairs are mixed with 2,000-peso armchairs from a surplus store; and a painting by a renowned Filipino artist is surrounded by flea market finds from Europe.

Although there is a lack of matching furniture that most people are accustomed to, the mismatched quality gives the home an even bigger personality.

A playful seating area filled with bold colors and interesting shapes, which happens to be the owner's favorite spot, is a definite standout.





A blank wall underneath the staircase is made more interesting with a quirky chair and a mini green wall.





A perfect example is his favorite area in the home: a small, secondary seating area between the living and dining spaces. It features a standout red accent chair flanked by two white armchairs with an overarching floor lamp above, which are all anchored on a speckled blue area rug.

The owner's collection is the result of accumulating special pieces over the years, including frequent travels abroad, and is more than enough to fill the home. But because he is still in the process of moving in, everything remains a work-in-progress. Finding the right pieces took time, patience and, most importantly, "always seeing the potential" of things. It is this particular eye that allows him to bring the most interesting pieces into his home, all with a little anecdote of how he had come to acquire each. Price tags aren't an indication of what the owner finds appealing, explaining that furniture pieces and accessories don't necessarily have to be expensive. "It's more about what I like," he says of the simple rule he lives by, which encourages him to only collect things that he really thinks are worth it.

"Nothing really gels together," he says. The choice of straying away from the usual is what gives this home its unique character. ■

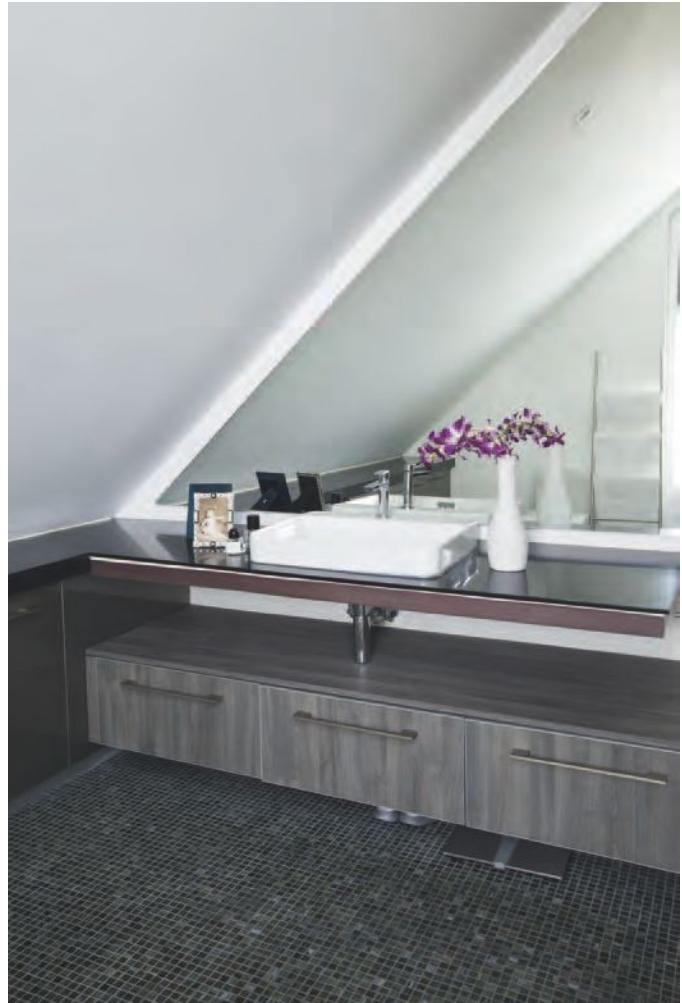
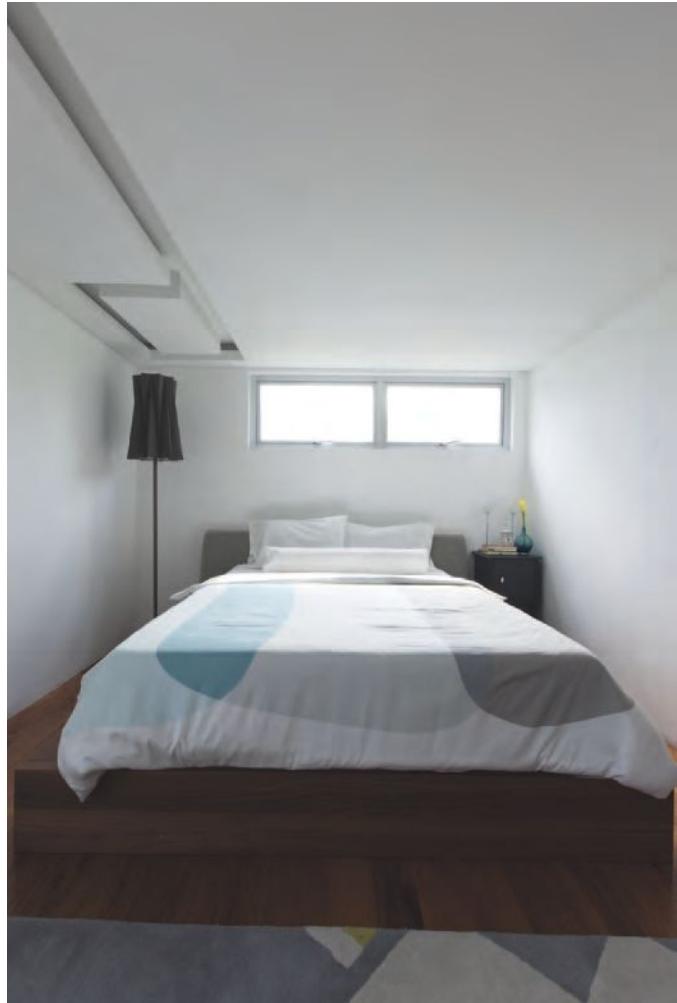
The owner accidentally found this heavily varnished dining table in an old warehouse in Bulacan. "I wanted to put a fun and young element to the area, so I chose modern-looking chairs in vibrant colors," he says.

A good balance of natural and modern materials is achieved in the dining room through colorful dining chairs surrounding a solid wood table.





Orchids housed in clear pendant lights hang above the dining table.



Left: The owner keeps his bedroom practical and simple. "I believe it's a place to rest after a hard day at work, so I intentionally make it very clean," he shares.

Right: The mosaic-tiled floor is a point of interest in the master bathroom. Having floating surfaces prevents the dark finish of the counters from looking heavy.

The personality of his home comes out in the choices of furniture pieces and accessories all set against white angular walls



The white couch and accent chair, which are both set against a plain white backdrop, maintain the airiness of the space.

Tableau Moderne

Spell elegance with neutral tones and metallic hues

Written by Stephanie Zubiri-Crespi | Photographed by John Ocampo of Studio 100

Styled by IDr. Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran of Moss Manila | Assisted by Lori Dawn Castrone, Raiza Riva, Francesca Tingcungco and Bianca Uy of Moss Manila

Keep things sleek and chic with bold neutrals like charcoal and stark white applied in architectural shapes. Avoid the ho-hum by adding pops of lush red and luxe metallics such as gold and mercurial silver. With a beautiful black marble table, one must definitely forgo the placemats and allow the natural graphic patterns of the veins to shine through. Infuse your table with objects of interest, such as the sea urchin sculptures and alligator butter knives, because modern doesn't necessarily mean minimalist. mh





For inquiries, email **Cyndi Fernandez-Beltran** at info@mossmanila.com and home@mossmanila.com, or call (02) 632 1978.

Shot on location at **Moss Manila Home** located at 1 Granada Street, Valencia, New Manila, Quezon City.

Chairs available from **Windsor and Tiffany**

Playing with Paper

Designer Wataru Sakuma challenges the limits of recycled materials in his unrestrained quarters

Photographed by Trish Zamora of Studio 100



Designer Wataru Sakuma's desk displays a couple of prototypes, which he created by stretching and reshaping bamboo bird cages he found in Divisoria into sofas. His wall is lined with corkboards filled with inspirations, work-in-progress designs, studies, and other materials that Wataru hopes to work with someday.



"My shelves get quite messy from time to time since I keep collecting random materials that interest me," says Wataru. "Most of the time, I have no idea what to use them for but later on, I end up finding ways to use these materials." The same goes for his books and swatches, which sometimes take him years before actually opening them.

1. How would you describe your workspace?
Messy but cozy

2. What do you love most about your space?

I tend to work more on the floor than on the table, so I'm fond of the large empty space in my studio, where I can spread a huge canvas to work with.

3. How does the design of your office resonate with your personal style?

There isn't much of a design in my office-slash-studio, but I guess I could say spontaneity.

4. Do you have a daily ritual before starting your work day?

Yes, I take my dog for a walk and drink a cup of Turkish coffee.

5. Are you more productive in the morning or in the evening?

I am definitely a night person. My design ideas and creative juices start pouring at around 8pm until the wee hours of the morning.

6. Which object in your office are you most sentimental about?

The *Tsubo* chair that I designed for Filali International in Cebu. It is one of my first chair designs.

7. What are the three things you must have while working?

A cup of coffee, cigarette, and great inspiration

8. In your opinion, what makes for a great workspace?

An open and expansive space provides ample access to all the tools you need.

9. Do you prefer silence or listening to music while working?

I can work either way, but I usually start working with the music on, and then end with silence most of the time. 



Left: "These are studies for my map collections made of recycled newspaper," says Wataru. Basing on the actual map of Manila, he carefully forms newspaper pulp and paints it over with acrylic paint. **Right:** Wataru stands beside his own *Tsubo* (Japanese term for acupuncture) chair, whose seat is made from natural wood, and backrest and armrest from rattan. "I believe we are surrounded by possible inspirations. The ultimate challenge is finding the right sensibility to make everything that exists around me or anybody I come across an inspiration," he shares.

The Good, the Bad, and the Lucky

What your Chinese Zodiac is telling you
about the Year of the Sheep

Written by Patti Sunio | Illustrated by Electrolychee Studio



The year that was has been a roller coaster ride for most of us. Changes, both the good and the bad, have come into our lives and altered its course indefinitely. Fortunately, the year ahead looks bright and promising, with the Year of the Wood Sheep seeking nothing but peace and prosperity, especially for those with a rough year to overcome.

“2015 is all about investing in the positive,” begins *feng shui* expert Master Hanz Cua. “An optimistic mindset coupled with pleasant surroundings is our best ammunition for what’s to come.” February 19, 2015 marks the official start

of the Chinese New Year and, as the tradition goes, we get ourselves—and our homes—ready with *feng shui*.

General cleaning of the house, de-cluttering and, if possible, redecorating of the bedrooms are the topmost recommendations for bringing in positive *feng shui*. Not only does a spic and span home work wonders on the visual appeal of your abode, it also radiates a calm and relaxed ambiance for the dwellers. When it comes to your Chinese New Year menu, fruits and pasta should top the list. An abundance of fresh fruits like oranges, bananas, apples, pears, pomelos, and melons brings in all sorts of luck and good

fortune to the table. Meanwhile, uncut noodles suggest long and healthy lives for family members. Last but not least, stick to tradition. According to Master Hanz, wearing red is still a great way to attract positive luck come New Year. Giving out *ampao* or red money envelopes is highly recommended because in *feng shui*, this means the elders are passing on their good fortune to the younger ones.

“The best way to prepare for the New Year is to have a clean mind and heart,” says Master Hanz. “Keep a positive attitude and, as much as possible, don’t get into arguments or be the first to put an end to conflicts.”



Rat

If last year was difficult, this year makes a positive turn for Rats, especially when it comes to career. Although great business opportunities and well-connected friends will jumpstart progress at work, you should be careful with your finances. A Flying Pi Yao placed in the living room protects your good fortune.



Ox

2015 looks to be a rough year for Oxen. You should be extra cautious when getting into business investments and handling conflict at work. Oxen should also pay attention to health. Having to get through trying times this year, you may find your ally in a Three-Wealth Goat placed at the center of the home.



Tiger

While progress in career advances for Tigers this year, your health, in turn, may suffer. You will definitely reap the rewards of your efforts if you keep your eyes on the prize and work hard to get it. An Evil Eye display in the study repels possible work-related conflict, while a Wu Lou in the bedroom protects your health.



Rabbit

Rabbits will be fortunate this year, especially with career-related matters. Positive energy surrounds you even in relationships, and this year is also a great time for married Rabbits to have children. A Laughing Buddha in the living room enhances your good fortune for the year.



Dragon

This year, influential friends may lead Dragons to great career progress, but at the same time open doors for possible misunderstandings with colleagues. It would be wise for you to be careful and mind your own back, especially in your work environment. An Evil Eye display at home helps protect Dragons from negative intentions.



Snake

Three things for Snakes to focus on this year are career, family relationships, and health. Career luck is promising. Family relations are strengthened as well, especially when time is spent travelling and bonding abroad, while health should be taken good care of. A Ru Yi sceptre helps enhance good luck and protection.



Horse

All is well in love for Horses this 2015. Singles may finally find love, but partnerships at work may not be as progressive. You should think carefully first before charging head on into any major decision. Lucky Double Coins around the home will have money luck pacing into the Horses' homes.



Sheep

While 2015 is the year of the Wood Sheep, luck doesn't seem so good for those born under this sign. Sheep should consciously avoid disagreements, gossiping, and conflicts at work. You should be careful with the people you choose to trust and spend time with. A Dragon Horse can greatly attract positive energy for Sheep.



Monkey

Monkeys are fortunate this year as friends will lend you help and support towards big changes in your career. Business opportunities and expansion, as well as finding work abroad, are possibilities. You should be mindful when handling your finances, and display a Buddha protector in the living room to enhance your luck.



Rooster

2015 looks to be a challenging year for Roosters. Emotionally and mentally, you should be prepared to face the unexpected and solve problems in the best ways possible. This year, you may face money loss, life-changing decisions, and relationship problems. Mantra bead crystals help negate the bad energy for Roosters.



Dog

Luck seems stable for Dogs this year. It'll be a great time for developments in career or pursuing higher education. Dogs will be charismatic and aggressive, attracting positive vibes along the way. However, this may also lead to problems in marriage and relationships. You should enhance your positive luck with a Pi Yao figurine.



Pig

Unfortunate stars line the house of Pigs this year. This may lead to problems in business and personal relationships. What you can do is turn problematic situations into positive learning experiences by being conscious of your mood and daily outlook. For financial luck, Chinese Money Coins come in handy for Pigs.



Visit **Master Hanz Cua** at his 8 Treasures—House of Mystical Charms shop at 1/F EDSA Shangri-La Plaza, Mandaluyong City or get in touch with him at 0922 8290 382.

Christofer Laurent Design

Evoking nostalgia through European influences set against a nature-inspired backdrop

Written by Cy Yambao | Photographed by Greg Mayo

It must be the striking Union Jack couches that would make you glance twice at Christofer Laurent Design, a fairly new furniture store in Greenfield District that translates European heritage into meaningful bespoke creations. Or it could be the row of world flags hanging from the high ceiling, which, with the spiral staircase, raises curiosity with the obstructed glimpse of the second and third floors. It may also be the store's strategic location across a vast open field that, when viewed through glass doors and windows, encourages a trip down memory lane.

Intended to be a project gallery, Christofer Laurent Design exudes an ambiance that reminds you of home—complete with relaxing music, the scent of vintage leather, a glass of champagne, and the freedom to personally experience each furniture piece before purchasing. Every nook is arranged in an unconventional manner to reflect the British practice of mixing and matching pieces across different eras. While Christofer Laurent Design specializes in customized craftsmanship, it also brings together a variety of unexpected finds from flea markets that likewise evoke nostalgia. In a world that is constantly changing, Christofer Laurent Design hopes to revive the finer things in life by continuously injecting heritage and childhood memories to its creative pursuit. 



Devon chair,
P18,900



"We endeavour to create an ambiance that would help usher our buyers into embracing our design aesthetic," says designer Christofer Laurent. "The project gallery is a collage of ideas inspired by different eras, thus creating products that are unique yet nostalgic."



The project gallery serves as a 3D catalogue, in which you can perceive the superior quality of the customized Christofer Laurent Design creations. "This exudes a certain emotional attachment to the bespoke pieces, as you can see and feel the exquisite quality of our products," shares Christofer.



Painting by Derick Vinculado, P40,000



Kinnaus light, P18,900



Antler magazine rack, P12,800

Octagon pedestals, P8,400 and P9,800



Antler horn, P2,600



Mimi chair, P4,950



Goliath's foot, P14,800



Chess pieces XL, P7,900 each



Daddy Dowling accent chair, P28,600

In the Mood to Decorate

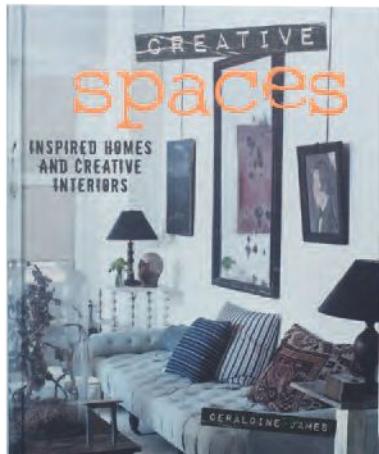
These books show you that in interior design, the possibilities are endless

Written by Aisne Trinidad | Photographed by Greg Mayo

Farrow and Ball: Decorating with Colour by Ros Byam Shaw

Decorating with Colour is a sequel to the bestselling *Farrow and Ball: Living with Colour* by Ros Byam Shaw. This time around, Ros discusses 10 decorating principles spread out in three chapters of the book, which are classified according to style: classic, contemporary, and country. Such principles tackle decorating with dark colors, using painted furniture, and choosing finishing touches to maximize your color options and preferred executions. This book also teaches you how to experiment with colors and decide on focal points that will serve as your guide when decorating your dwelling on your own.

P1,199, available at Fully Booked



P2,099, available at Fully Booked

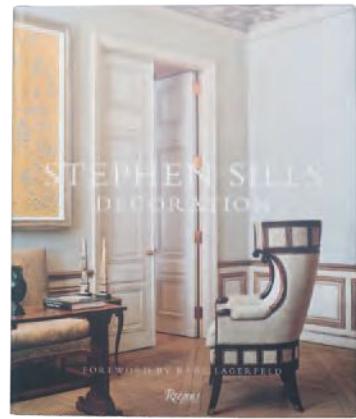
Creative Spaces: Inspired Homes and Creative Interiors by Geraldine James

A book that knows no boundaries when it comes to decorating, *Creative Spaces* contains the most creative and inspired homes divided into six chapters: Art-Loving Modernists, Living with Pattern and Color, Individual Eclecticism, Carefully Curated Purists, Modern Industrialists, and The Archivist. It features household names in the art, design, and fashion industries, as well as individuals who have crafted their own style in their private spaces. Take a peek inside the art-filled contemporary dwelling of fashion designer Betty Jackson, the eclectic home of jewelry designer Nicky Butler, the studio-archive-home of Barnaba Fornasetti, and many more. *Creative Spaces* is certainly the book that celebrates the endless possibilities of design, and the ability of an individual to express himself through decorating and curating his own space.

Stephen Sills: Decoration

Stephen Sills: Decoration is a book that shows you how to decorate your home straight from an interior designer's perspective. It showcases 16 residential projects of Stephen Sills, wherein he perfectly executed his unique style in all areas of every home featured, including his own country house in Bedford, New York. Stephen, who has made a mark in the industry because of his modern approach to classicism, makes use of unusual finishes, rich fabrics, and diverse furnishings in his projects. This manifests his idea of bridging the past and the present, illustrating timeless designs that merge classic and modern styles.

P2,990, available at Fully Booked



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